

# **Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee**

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**Wednesday 8 December 2021 at 1.00 pm**

**To be held at the Town Hall, Pinstone Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

**The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend**

## **Membership**

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Councillors Mick Rooney (Chair), Maroof Raouf (Deputy Chair), Mike Chaplin, Anne Murphy, Vickie Priestley, Kaltum Rivers, Safiya Saeed, Jack Scott, Richard Shaw, Sophie Wilson, Ann Whitaker, Cliff Woodcraft and Ann Woolhouse

## **Education Non-Council Members**

Alison Warner, Sam Evans, Peter Naldrett, Vacancy and Vacancy

## **Healthwatch Sheffield**

Alice Riddell (Observer)

## **Substitute Members**

In accordance with the Constitution, Substitute Members may be provided for the above Committee Members as and when required.

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## **PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING**

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The Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny Committee exercises an overview and scrutiny function in respect of the planning, policy development and monitoring of service performance and other general issues relating to learning and attainment and the care of children and young people within the Children's Services area of Council activity. It also scrutinises as appropriate the various local Health Services functions, with particular reference to those relating to the care of children.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at [www.sheffield.gov.uk](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk). You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked \* on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Scrutiny Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Scrutiny Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last. If you would like to attend the meeting please report to the First Point Reception desk where you will be directed to the meeting room.

If you require any further information about this Scrutiny Committee, please contact Alice Nicholson, Policy and Improvement Officer on 0114 27 35065 or [email alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk)

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## **FACILITIES**

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There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

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**CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILY SUPPORT SCRUTINY AND POLICY  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA  
8 DECEMBER 2021**

**Order of Business**

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- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Public and Press**  
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public
- 4. Declarations of Interest** (Pages 5 - 8)  
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting
- 5. Public Questions and Petitions**  
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public
- 6. Early Help Review** (Pages 9 - 16)  
Report of the Director of Children and Families
- 7. Draft Work Programme 2021/22** (Pages 17 - 22)  
Report of the Policy and Improvement Officer
- 8. Date of Next Meeting**  
The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, at 1.00 pm, in the Town Hall

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## ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

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If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)** relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period\* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

\*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –
  - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
  - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
  - the landlord is your council or authority; and
  - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
  - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
  - (b) either -
    - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
    - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Audit and Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Gillian Duckworth, Director of Legal and Governance on 0114 2734018 or email [gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk).

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## Report to Children, Young People & Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021

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**Report of:** Carly Speechley, Director Children and Families

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**Subject:** Early Help Review

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**Author of Report:** Louise Bower

Louise.bower@sheffield.gov.uk

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The Committee have previously received an update on Multi-Agency Support Teams (MAST) and expressed an interest in the Early Help Review.

This report provides an introduction and an update on the Early Help Review for Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny Committee.

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**Type of item:** The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	X
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Other	

**The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

- **Note the update, and consider if there are any future matters for the Committee work programme**

**Background Papers:**

**Category of Report:** OPEN

## Summary of the key messages:

The aim of the Early Help Review is to articulate an ambition for locality based early intervention services to children and families across Sheffield. This review officially commenced on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Progress was initially impacted by Covid-19. The Steering Group with senior managers across the people portfolio met to recommence the review on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020 and work has continued since then.

Sheffield City Council are committed to providing early help to children, young people and families. Significant investment and support has resulted in multi-agency working to identify children and families who may need early help and a wide early help offer being available.

However;

- Despite our investment in Early Help, increasing poverty and emergent risk have resulted in increasing demand and complexity
- We need a more consistent and fair approach across the city for all children, young people and their families
- Sometimes families are not able to access early help or have to wait too long
- Our 'reach' is not wide enough for all the children, young people and families that need help and support so demand for acute and reactive services continues to increase
- Partners tell us it can be difficult to navigate our early help system, they aren't always clear how to access services and sometimes there is duplication which is inefficient and means families have to tell their story more than once
- Our families have increasingly complex needs which cannot be addressed through a single agency or single issue response
- Our workforce tells us the current offer is difficult to navigate, there are multiple processes to identify need and numerous pathways depending on need identified.
- There is a disproportionate resource allocated to identification and assessment which means there are not enough 'case holding' workers to undertake the keyworker role for families.
- Improving our Early Help offer to meet the additional needs of more families will reduce demand for acute services which is both better for children and more cost-effective provision.

The Early Help review aims to:

- Develop **one** integrated and coordinated offer of early help services delivered in localities which is strengths based and whole family
- Streamline pathways into the offer based on data and referral information
- Increase case holding capacity whilst maintaining specialist function
- Co locate services with partner agencies where possible

The Steering group agreed a two phased approach to the review;

- Phase One will articulate a coherent Sheffield City Council Early Help Offer and is anticipated to conclude in early 2022
- Phase Two will articulate a coordinated partnership Early Help Offer for the City and will commence in early 2022.

## **Background Information**

### **What do we mean by Early Help?**

Early Help refers to the wide range of support available to children, young people and families from universal provision through to targeted non-statutory intensive support (including our “Edge of Care” services), to prevent additional needs arising or escalating. All services who work with children, young people and parents should work to the guidelines in Working Together 2018 that describes the reach of Early Help as follows;

*Providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later. Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child’s life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years.*

*Early help can also prevent further problems arising; for example, if it is provided as part of a support plan where a child has returned home to their family from care, or in families where there are emerging parental mental health issues or drug and alcohol misuse.*

*Effective early help relies upon local organisations and agencies working together to:*

- *identify children and families who would benefit from early help*
- *undertake an assessment of the need for early help*
- *provide targeted early help services to address the assessed needs of a child and their family which focuses on activity to improve the outcomes for the child*

[Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/681107/Working-Together-to-Safeguard-Children-2018.pdf)

Why does Early Intervention matter? This 2 minute video illustrates why beautifully...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liPtHMa7WCY>

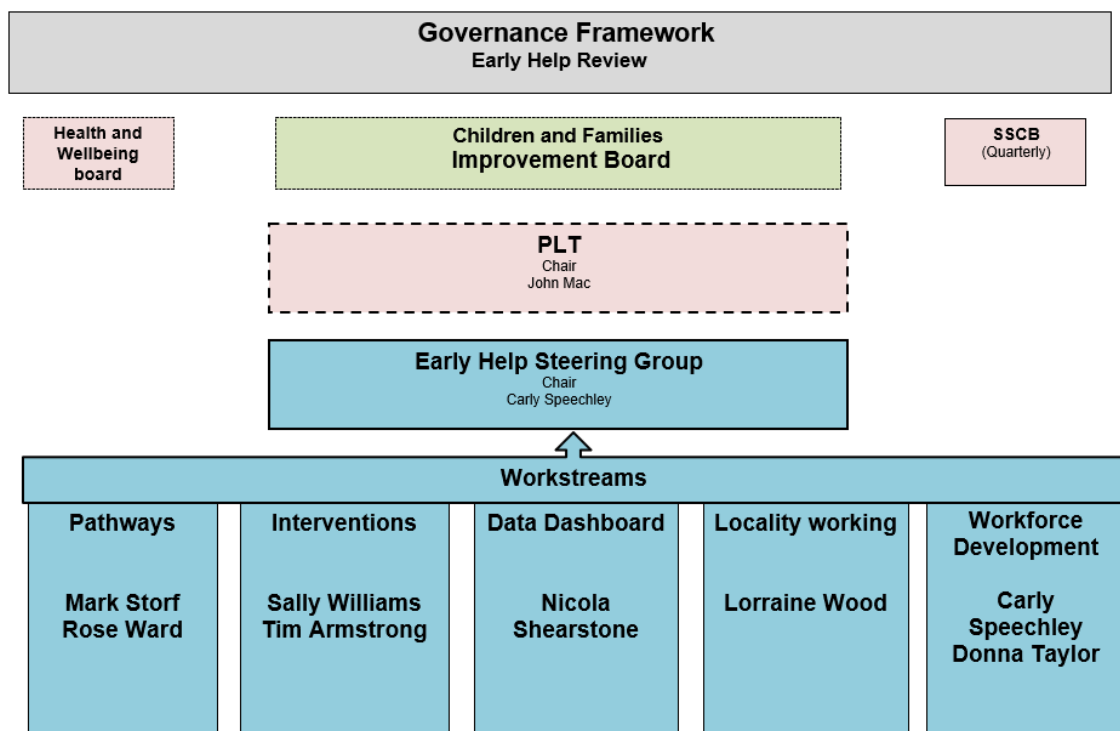
## Vision for the Early Help Review

Sheffield will be an inclusive city where we work together to ensure that all children receive the right support at the right time so that they live a happy and fulfilled life

## Ambition

To have a clear pathway into one integrated early help offer that has been co-produced with all stakeholders including; children, young people, families, staff, practitioners, and partners

## Governance for Phase One



The steering group agreed the co-produced vision articulated in the inclusion strategy encompasses our vision for early help across the City.

Phase 1 of the review is being progressed by the following workstreams;

## **Interventions Workstream**

### **What success would look like;**

A clear and comprehensive Early Help interventions model/framework comprising evidence-informed practice that clarifies what interventions are on offer and what outcomes each intervention should deliver against so that we can understand what works, where the gaps are and make decisions about what we offer each family based on their needs.

### **Progress and next steps**

- Development of the Early Help Outcomes Framework, with input from partners, schools, parents, children and the Early Help workforce.
- A draft of the Early Help Interventions Menu is being tested on with a focus group of partner agencies this week for their input with the aim of creating one clear offer easily navigable by referrers who have identified additional needs of children, young people and/or families.

## **Data Workstream**

### **What success would look like;**

- Comprehensive information sharing agreements that enable all Early Help and relevant health services to share information
- Reduced number of IT systems for Early Help services and better use of data to assist frontline work, to measure impact, to assess our performance and to target our resources.
- Data sets that inform us of the differing demands in different localities across the city

### **Progress and next steps**

- Many Early Help services now using the same IT system and so more easily able to see and share information
- Progress with developing improved data sharing agreements with partner agencies to enable frontline practitioners to have all the relevant information they need to improve the support that they offer to children, young people and families.
- Further IT developments planned subject to financial constraints

## **Pathways Workstream**

### **What success would look like;**

- Streamlined pathways into the offer based on data and referral information
- Our Services will work together well and have simple processes that support a 'Tell Us Once' approach that enables more families being offered timely support that meets their needs

### **Progress and next steps**

Work underway to create a single point of access into children, young people & families services with a single referral form – initial testing with a small range of services due to begin in November 2021 with expansion and development over the coming months.

## **Workforce Workstream**

### **What success would look like;**

- An Early Help workforce all trained to a clear knowledge and skills framework that are skilled and supported to do high quality work with children and families
- All Early Help workforce to have up to date, relevant job descriptions, permanent team structures and clarity re: role and remit and how their work benefits children and families
- Clear career development pathways for the Early Help workforce, with more opportunity for side-ways moves as well as attainable progression opportunities
- Increased case holding capacity overall whilst retaining advisory and specialist expertise in our workforce, and Early Help workers work with the whole family where possible.

### **Progress and next steps**

- A workforce redesign process is underway to align job roles with the outcomes framework for Early Help and the newly created Early Help Knowledge & Skills Framework. Anticipated implementation date for practitioner roles is January 2022.
- An enhanced learning & development offer has been developed to ensure that the Early Help workforce are skilled and supported to do the work that is needed.

## **Localities Workstream**

### **What success would look like;**

- Families can access early help services in their neighbourhood, and the provision available is the right type and amount to meet the needs of that community (informed by good quality data)
- Early Help practitioners work together well to provide multi-agency joined up services that meet families need in that community
- The Voluntary and Community sector, Police, Community workers, neighbourhood officers, health workers, schools and Early Help workers together deliver support to children and families as needed.

### **Progress and next steps**

- Connecting Practice Events have been held regularly in each locality to bring together the SCC, partner agency and VCF sector Early Help practitioners that serve that community, to build relationships and promote the provision available for families.
- Phase 2 of the Early Help Review will further progress the Early Help offer across this wide range of agencies for the families of Sheffield.

### Sheffield Early Help Outcomes Framework

- ✓ **SAFE & NURTURED** – Children & young people are safe, secure & nurtured within their home
- ✓ **SAFE COMMUNITIES** – Children and young people are safe and supported in their community so that they are not at risk of harm
- ✓ **GOOD HEALTH** - Children and young people have good physical health
- ✓ **EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY** – Children and young people are resilient and emotionally healthy
- ✓ **ENGAGING EDUCATION & ACTIVITIES** – Children and young people access their education, employment, and their local community

*And in all of our work we ensure that children and young people with additional needs get identified and receive appropriate support in a timely manner.*

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## Report to Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021

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**Report of:** Policy and Improvement Officer

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**Subject:** Draft Work Programme 2021/22

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**Author of Report:** Alice Nicholson, Policy and Improvement Officer  
[alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk)

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This report sets out the Committee's draft work programme for consideration and discussion.

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**Type of item:** The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other	X

**The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:**

- Consider and comment on the work programme

**Background Papers:** [Sheffield Council Constitution](#)

**Category of Report:** OPEN

## **Draft Work Programme 2021/22: Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny Committee – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

### **1.0 What is the role of Scrutiny?**

- 1.1 Scrutiny Committees exist to hold decision makers to account, investigate issues of local concern, and make recommendations for improvement.
- 1.2 Scrutiny Committees can operate in a number of ways – through formal meetings with several agenda items, single item ‘select committee’ style meetings, task and finish groups, and informal visits and meetings to gather evidence to inform scrutiny work. Committees can hear from Council Officers, Cabinet Members, partner organisations, expert witnesses, members of the public. This Scrutiny Committee includes parent governor representatives. Scrutiny Committees are not decision making bodies but can make recommendations to decision makers.

### **2.0 The Scrutiny Work Programme**

- 2.1 Attached is the draft work programme for the Committee’s consideration. We will take a flexible approach in planning scrutiny work, to enable us to respond appropriately as new issues emerge.
- 2.2 Members of the Committee can also raise any issues relating to the work programme via the Chair or Policy and Improvement Officer at any time.

### **3.0 Recommendations**

The Committee is asked to:

- Consider and comment on the draft work programme

<b>Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny Committee 2021/22</b>			
<b>Item</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>
<i>Review of impact of Covid-19 pandemic on Young People in Sheffield - Update on Scrutiny Recommendations of 2020/2, and current view of young people</i>	<i>Continuation of established collaborative working with Youth Cabinet</i>	<i>Youth Cabinet Representatives</i>	<i>October 2021</i>
<i>Adoption Service - Annual Report</i>	<i>Holding to account – consider Annual Report</i>	<i>Carly Speechley, Director of Children and Families, Paul Dempsey, Assistant Director</i>	<i>November 2021</i>
<i>Fostering Service - Annual Report</i>	<i>Holding to account – consider Annual Report</i>	<i>Carly Speechley, Director of Children and Families, Paul Dempsey, Assistant Director</i>	<i>November 2021</i>
Review of early help services	Follow up of Committee ask 2021/21		8 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report	Holding to account - consider Annual Report	David Ashcroft (Independent Chair of Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership); Tina Gilbert (Safeguarding Board Manager); Jayne Dunn - Co-operative Executive Member for Education Children and Families	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
Sheffield Sexual Exploitation Service Annual Report	Holding to account - consider Annual Report	Dan White (Head of Health and Targeted Services)	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
Amber Project Update	Briefing on Amber Project, contextualised safeguarding and signs of safety – follow up of committee ask 2020/21		TBC
SEND – Review of Sheffield Inclusion Strategy, including pandemic impact on needs or service delivery	Holding to account - progress of Sheffield Inclusion Strategy		Feb/March 2022

Youth Services / Youth Strategy	Update and follow-up of Committee ask		TBC
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